

Ernest MacMillan 12A

FOUR SEASONS

A Canadian Song Cycle



The Music by —
LOUIS VICTOR SAAR Op. 119

The Poems by —
JOHN MURRAY GIBBON

CANADIAN MUSIC CENTRE
CENTRE MUSICAL CANADIEN
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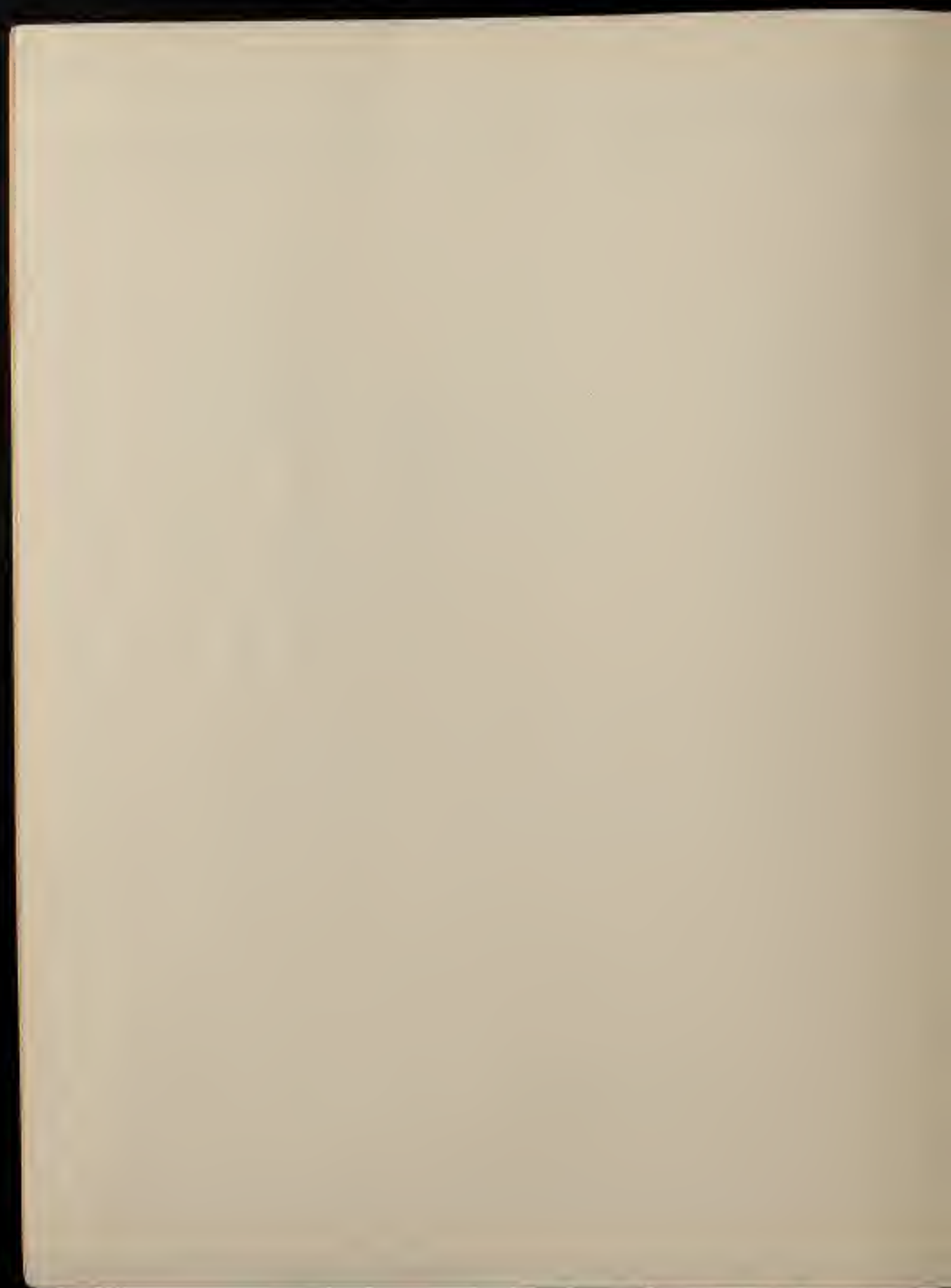
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Winter

AS in dreams
Once and again
The eager heart repels
Fears and impalpable phantasies,
So breathless
Upon the windblown, drifting trails,
Buffeted wayfarers
We struggle with snow - whirls
Of February gales.

John Murray Gibbon

Four Seasons

(A CANADIAN SONG CYCLE)

Low Voice

I

Winter

LOUIS VICTOR SAAR, Op. 119, No. 1

JOHN MURRAY GIBBON

Agitato, ma non troppo *f*

Voice: As in dreams Once and a - gain The ea-ger

non legato

Piano: *f energico*

heart re-pels Fears and im - pal - pa - ble phan - ta - sies,

p creso. *f*

So breath - less Up-on the wind - blown, drift - ing

p

cresc.

trails, Buf-fet-ted way - far - ers We strug - gle, we

f strug - - gle with snow - - - - - whirls Of *ff*

allarg. Feb - ru - a - ry gales. *a tempo*

colla parte *a tempo, senza rit. al fine* 8...

Spring

WHITETHROAT and thrush,
 Aerial pilgrims,
 Chant in the orchard
 Plainsong of spring.

Is there in the South
 Altar more beautiful
 Than apple branches
 Twined in reredos
 Of lilac and maroon?

And now the river
 Bursting its cerements of ice
 Reverberates
 Gospel of resurrection.

Here, here
 In April
 Are the stairs of Heaven.

John Murray Gibbon

II Spring

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JOHN MURRAY GIBBON



LOUIS VICTOR SAAR, Op. 119, No 2

Dreamily

Voice

Piano

mp

dim. e rall.

pp

p

White-throat and thrush, Ae-ri-al pil-grims, Chant in the or-ward Plain-song of spring.

p

poco animato
mf espress.

cresc.

Is there in the South Al-tar more beau-ti-ful Than ap-ple branch-

mf

cresc.

Poco più mosso

rall. e dim. pp *mf*

- es Twined in re - re-dos Of li-lac and ma-roon? And

colla parte pp

cresc.

— now the riv - er, Burst - ing its cer - e-ments of

marc.

rall. *Tempo Io*

ice Re - ver - ber - ates Gos - pel of res - ur - rec - tion.

marc. *colla parte sf espress.*

sf *dim.* *e* *rall.*

Più lento ed espressivo

p *pp*

Here, here In Ap - ril Are the stairs of Heav

p *pp al fine*

en.

morendo *ppp*

Summer

I WILL to the mountains
Along cool trails amid the glaciers
And Alpine meadows framed with larch
And the red Indian Paint Brush.

I will to the mountains
And to the lakes of melted jade
Where the forest
Broods in stained reflection
Under crystalline skies.

There overhead
Steep jagged cliffs
Rear their defiant shields,
Aeons of snow,
Against the shafts of July suns.

John Murray Gibbon

III

9

Summer

JOHN MURRAY GIBBON

LOUIS VICTOR SAAR, Op. 119, N° 3

Animated

Voice

f deciso *f*

I will to the mount - - ains

Piano

f marc. *f*

mp più tranquillo

A - long cool trails a - mid the gla - - ciers And Al - pine meadows framed with

l.h. *l.h.*

mp

f a tempo

larch And the red In - dian Paint Brush.

a tempo *f marc.*

cresc. *f*

f deciso *f*

I will to the mount - - ains

mp tranquillo

And to the lakes of melted jade _____ Where the

l.h. *mp*

for - - est Broods in stained re - flec - - tion

l.h.

p *a tempo* *f*

Un-der crys-tal-line skies There o-ver - head. Steep jag-ged

p *a tempo* *sf*

ff rall.

cliffs Rear their de-fi - ant shields, Ae - - ons of

ff

snow, A-against the shafts of Ju-ly suns.

colla parte *ff vivace*

Fall

GREY, gaunt and sere
Is the old year.

Flake upon flake
Falls the heartache;
Only for a while
The Indian Summer
Comes with a smile
A late-comer,
An afterthought,
So that naught
Of the old year
May lack good cheer,
And you remember
A sweet November.

John Murray Gibbon

IV

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Fall

JOHN MURRAY GIBBON



LOUIS VICTOR SAAR, Op. 119, N° 4

Voice *Moderato* *mp tristemente*
Grey, gaunt and sere

Piano *mp*

Is the old year. Flake up-on flake Falls the

Sostenuto ed espress.
heart - ache; On - ly for a

dim. e rall. *mp una corda*

while The In-dian Sum-mer Comes with a smile

Tempo 10
ben recit.

A late-com-er, An af-ter thought, So that naught_ Of the

p tre corde

rall. *Più lento dolce*

old year May lack good cheer, And you re- - mem -

rall. *pp una corda*

- ber A sweet No-ven - ber, A sweet No-

dim.

Tempo I^o *pp al fine, tristamente*

ven - ber. Grey, gaunt and sere.

pp (u.c.) al fine

Is the old year.

morendo ppp



